

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the remarks contained herein.

**STATUS OF CLAIMS AND SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENTS**

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 10-17 and 19-28 will be pending in this application.

Claims 1-9 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, their subject matter.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for immediate allowance, and an early notification to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions about this application, or believes that any issues remain to be resolved, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to arrange for a personal or telephonic interview to resolve these issues prior to the issuance of another Office action.

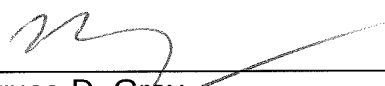
The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: December 28, 2009

By:

  
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Bruce D. Gray  
Registration No. 35799

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